

5. REPORT OF THE ACCOUNTING OFFICER



Overview of Operations of the Department

In the last month of the financial year under review, I took over the baton from my predecessor with full knowledge that this is a position that has huge leadership expectations in terms of responsibilities and also challenges. I am aware that our communities expect their constitutional rights to be protected where South African Police Services (SAPS) and Municipal Police Service (MPS) members have violated them. Undoubtedly, Independent Police Investigative Directorate (IPID) has dedicated and committed personnel that need to be applauded for their ethics and commitment to service delivery.

Despite the limited resources, the Department managed to achieve 83% of its planned targets. The following are the highlights:

- Improvement of performance from 65% to 83% when compared to previous financial year,
- 1 989 docket referrals to the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) for decision,
- 766 cases are on the court roll,
- Secured 91 criminal convictions,
- 2 338 recommendations were referred to SAPS, of which 1 464 were positive recommendations and 874 negative recommendations,
- Secured 207 disciplinary convictions,
- Obtained an unqualified audit opinion,
- Managed and significantly reduced previously reported accruals, and
- Successfully litigated to prevent counter investigation against IPID investigators.

During the period under review a total of five Satellite Offices in Eastern Cape, Free State, KwaZulu-Natal, Northern Cape and North West had to be closed due to the Department not being able to afford operational costs. It is envisaged that this decision may be revisited should the Department receive additional funding. However, I will be failing not to commend our investigators who despite the long and tiring distances that they normally travel to do their work, they still do it with pride.

The Department has been trying to fully implement Section 23 of the IPID Act, wherein IPID investigators conditions of service are required to be on par with that of SAPS detectives. There have been delays due to external stakeholder dependencies.

The amendment of the IPID Act which was due have been finalised on 06 September 2018 is yet to be finalised. The Bill was processed by the National Assembly and referred to the National Council of Provinces, however the fifth Parliament was dissolved before it could engage on the Bill.

Whilst the Department acknowledges the additional funding that was received from the SAPS for the 2018 MTEF; however, there are still key ICT projects that are still outstanding, such as back-ups solutions and disaster recovery.

In addition to the afore-mentioned challenges, the IPID is yet to implement the Farlam Commission Recommendations that were issued in 2015 and also the Expansion Strategy that was presented and adopted by Portfolio Committee on Police as well as the Select Committee on Security and Justice due to lack of funding.

We will await the finalization of the full amendment of the IPID Act. However, IPID will continue its business to ensure the attainment of its constitutional and legislative obligations.